

A¹
wherein the housing is flexible.

- A²
13. (Amended) A fastener assembly, comprising:
a fastening element;
a housing connected to an inflatable bladder and sized and adapted to mate with the fastening element; and
a latch positioned relative to the housing to retain the fastening element within the housing.
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Please add the following new claims:

18. (New) A fastener, comprising:
a housing sized and adapted to mate with a fastening element; and
a latch positioned relative to the housing to retain the fastening element within the housing, wherein the latch comprises a protrusion having a portion corresponding to the shape of the fastening element.
19. (New) The fastener of claim 18, further including a flange and wherein the housing and the latch are both connected to the flange.
- A³
20. (New) The fastener of claim 19, wherein the flange is configured so that it can be connected to a sheet of material.
21. (New) The fastener of claim 20, wherein each of the flange and the sheet of material comprise a thermoplastic, and wherein the flange and the sheet of material are configured to be heat sealed together.
22. (New) The fastener of claim 18, wherein the housing comprises a side wall and a retaining lip.

23. (New) The fastener of claim 22, wherein the retaining lip comprises a notch to accommodate a fastening element attachment mechanism.
24. (New) The fastener of claim 22, wherein the side wall comprises a semi-circular section.
25. (New) The fastener of claim 18, wherein the housing is flexible.
26. (New) The fastener of claim 18, wherein the latch is flexible.
27. (New) The fastener of claim 18, wherein the latch comprises a flange generally parallel to a base of the housing and projecting towards the interior of the housing.
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Please cancel claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer.